

APPENDIX vii: SAMPLE LETTER TO COUNCIL



August 16, 2013

Dear Mayor and Members of the Community and Protective Services Committee:

This letter addresses the recent discussions of the installation of security cameras in the Old East Village, especially the alleyway between 632 and 634 Dundas Street. Specifically, the Old East Village Community Association (OEVCA) has been asked to support this placement. While the OEVCA welcomes any strategic initiative that enhances the quality of life of ALL of its community members, we have not had the opportunity to learn how this plan could do so.

The association is keenly interested in understanding how the placement of security cameras in the alley way aligns to the larger strategic plan to combat criminal and anti-social activity in the City of London and, of course, the Old East Village.

The OEVCA would support a collaborative approach to understanding the issues, receiving public input, and developing a long term neighborhood strategy aligned with the **City of London's Citizen Engagement Policy**. The development of this long term strategy should include:

- **Consultation** with the business community and community residents, to address issues of effectiveness, potential locations, and appropriate supporting tactics like increased **lighting and increased police presence** in both the commercial and residential areas of the neighborhood.
- Such consultations could be conducted by a **community task force** supported by City staff including our Ward Councilor and representatives from the Old East Village BIA, Old East Village Community Association, London Police Services, neighborhood social services and London Cares. The task force would be focused on proactive tactics to address identified issues in the context of the larger plan.
- The CAPS Committee to receive **reports** from the community task force on a regular basis regarding the development and of the strategy, its implementation over time and its effectiveness. As an outcome, the task force could remain as a permanent vehicle for consultation and citizen engagement.

As you are no doubt aware, the Old East Village is open for business and the energy, activity and accomplishments of its residents make it a much valued home, workplace, or entertainment destination. Noted for our inclusiveness, engagement, and diversity, we hope to protect these ideals

and the interests of all who live, work and play here. The best way to do this is no doubt complex, but we are prepared to do our part when we come to the table.

Regards,

Jennifer Diplock,
President,
Old East Village Community Association